



GIRLS' DORMITORY.

Through the influence of the Morehead Normal School, Rowan is an orderly and quiet county and Morehead is one of the best managed and most law-abiding towns in the State. The school has been a potent factor in the regeneration of the community. It has served to prevent the continuance or recurrence of the feud; it has caused the saloons to go. About four hundred teachers have been trained within its classrooms for their professions, and through these teachers the children of the community are being reached.

Morehead is a center of mountain life and enterprise. No town in Eastern Kentucky has a larger territory tributary to it. It is the distributing point for four or five counties and in part for five other counties. It is the railroad center for a vast stretch of mountain territory. Not a week day passes without the appearance on its streets of many wagons that have come for miles to procure supplies. It is the only point of departure for many miles from the valley in which it is situated to the country on either side. It is located on a through line of railroad, and two branch roads through it are in course of construction.

It is admirably situated for a work whose aim is to reach a large number of poor mountain people. It is the gateway to Eastern Kentucky and West Virginia.

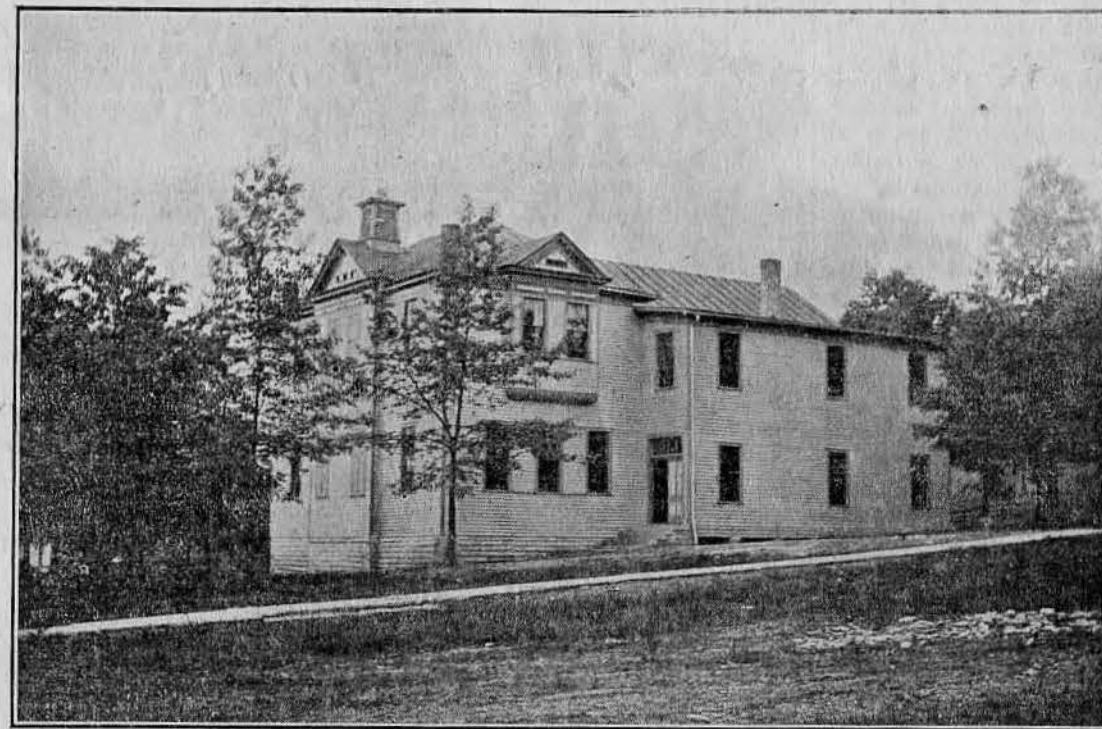
General Wm. T. Withers, formerly a prominent citizen of Lexington and a gallant ex-Confederate officer, who was thoroughly acquainted with the dark side of life in the Kentucky mountains, was moved by his State pride and by his loyalty to the teachings of Christ to establish a school in Rowan county. He selected the State Board of the Christian Church of Kentucky, of which he was a member, as the organization through which funds for the school should pass and by which the school should be conducted. Mr. Withers contributed \$500 annually to the support of the school until his death, after which the gift was continued for two years by his estate. The first step in the organization of the school was the employment of F. C. Button and his mother, Mrs. Phoebe E. Button, in September, 1887. The school began with one pupil in attendance in October of the same year. A wise choice was made in the selection of Mr. Button and his mother. Of her one who is well qualified to speak says: "She was one of the best women I have ever known; I have never seen her superior or her equal. In her movements among the people, in their homes, by kind words and deeds, she became known and loved by all in the community."

In 1890 the grounds and money for the first school building were given by Judge Thomas F. Hargis, of Louisville, Ky., who was raised in More-

head. In 1892 Paph Julian and wife were employed to take charge of the school. F. C. Button was appointed to raise funds for the erection of a

SCHOOL GROWING IN THE MOUNTAINS

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tucky and from the citizens of the town. For two years, 1897-1899, Prof. W. J. Henry and wife assisted in the management of the school.

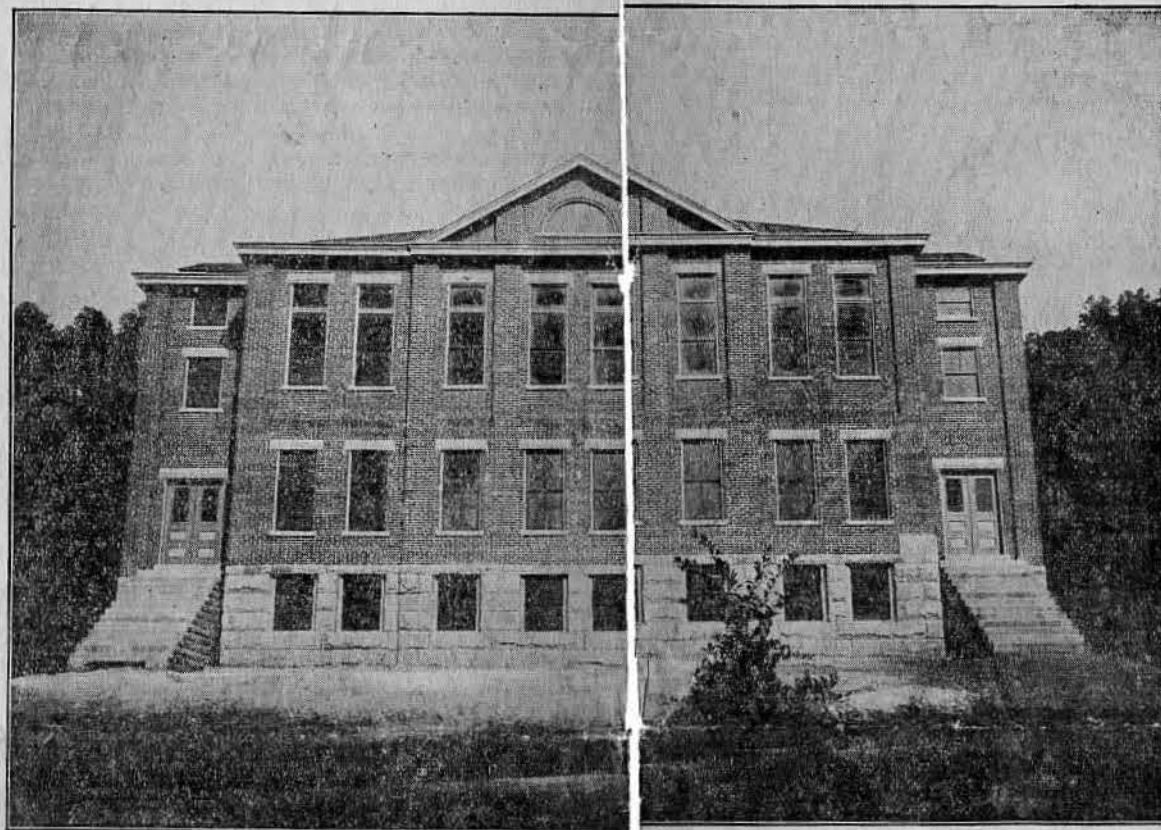
Thus for thirteen years the school was under the control of the Kentucky Christian Missionary Convention and was conducted with a large measure of success. The new epoch in its history began on July 31, 1900, when the school passed under the control of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions. Under this management many improvements have been made. There are seventy acres of land, comprising the greater part of a beautiful hill and the ground at its base. It is a most beautiful location. The main school building has been enlarged and refurnished. The grounds have been supplied with stone walks. A new building combining industrial and dormitory facilities has been erected. It is a handsome building of brick and stone, and cost about ten thousand dollars. The school is steadily increasing in power and efficiency. The many additions and improvements made by the Christian Woman's Board of Missions make possible an increased patronage and an enlarged work.

There are problems in this work that are yet to be solved. How is it possible to reach directly the poor mountain boys and girls? It has not yet been done as largely as it should be, for it is simply out of the question

for them to come to school paying their way. Money—they have none. Hence arises the crying need of an industrial department in which poor pupils may secure an education without being pauperized in the effort. Some form of an extension movement is inevitable, for there is yet the poorest class to whose very doors we must take our message. Indirectly, through the mountain school teachers who have been trained in this school, the poor pupils in the mountains have been reached. This is perhaps the best feature of the school work. The future is full of promise. Undoubtedly there is a great work before this mountain school of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions.

Morehead is the school center for an area as large as one-third of the State. There is no better timber—and more of it—out of which to make consecrated Christian men and women than that which may be found in our mountain homes. The school has yet to do for Eastern Kentucky and Western Virginia what it has done for Rowan county. Here is a large field where there is a desire in the hearts of thousands of bright young people for an education. The experience of the Morehead Normal in her local field has simply ripened her for this enlarged work.

During the past year 210 pupils, 167 of whom were boarders from 16 counties and three States, were enrolled



BOYS' DORMITORY AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDING.

new school building and dormitory, named "Hobson Hall" in honor of his daughter.

The rest of the money was raised from the Christian Churches of Ken-